

Putting the power of community news in the hands of local citizens

## What: A Resource for the COS Grassroots Network

The **COS Community Newsmaker** tool is a news story pitching resource that COS affiliated grassroots can independently harness to advance community activism and self-governance in their communities by:

- **Elevating** local issues of importance
- Celebrating local heroes and patriots
- Holding government accountable and promoting government transparency
- Highlighting overlooked stories and amplifying marginalized voices

## Goal:

✓ Cultivate and empower activism, civic engagement, and self-governance by elevating awareness around state and local community issues.

## How does it work?

The COS Community Newsmaker Program starts with engaged citizens like you.

- 1. You are the source—Come across a story that needs telling? Attend a local meeting? Dig into government data on spending, contracts, or other issues? Report it!
- 2. **Pitch your story**—Use the COS Community Newsmaker Pitch Form to put your story in play. Think someone needs to answer some questions? Tell us who and what questions you want our reporters to ask.
- 3. Watch Your Story Get Reported—Your story will be assigned to a journalist who will conduct interviews, research, and write the story. In a few days, the story will be published on your community's online news site. You will be informed when the story is published, and provided with a link that you can share with others.

#### Who writes the articles?

Story leads are drafted into stories by a **quality-reviewed** network of free-lance reporters across the country who adhere to strict journalistic standards — **no political bias, and a commitment to facts over opinion**. Additionally every story draft is reviewed by editorial staff to ensure it adheres to editorial standards.



## Who's behind the COS Community Newsmaker?

**COS Community Newsmaker** is a collaboration between **Citizens for Self-Governance** and the **Metric Media Foundation** to help restore local news in communities across America. The COS Community Newsmaker tool is a means to build a wide network of citizen community reporters.

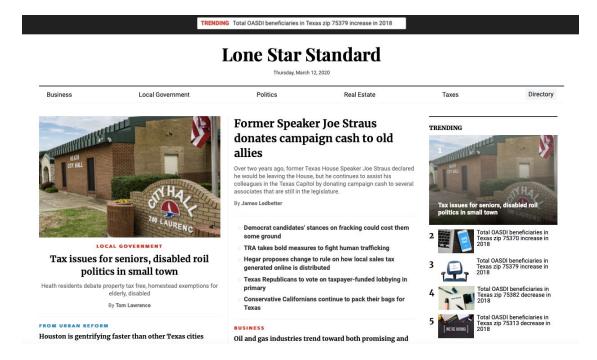
# Where will the articles be published?

As of now (March 2020), Metric Media maintains an established **network of local news sites** in the following states:

1.	Arizona -	16 sites
2.	Delaware -	5 sites
3.	Florida -	49 sites
4.	lowa -	21 sites
5.	Kentucky -	19 sites
6.	Michigan -	38 sites

Minnesota - 19 sites
Montana - 8 sites
New Mexico - 10 sites
N. Carolina - 48 sites
Texas - 57 sites
Washington - 1 site

Stories can also be published to statewide "Business Daily" outlets in all 50 states.



## **Need More Info?**

→ Check out the #community\_news\_maker channel on COS/CSG Team Slack!